

## SUMMARY

### **Proposed natural landscape site in the vicinity of Bąkowa Góra on the Pilica river**

Bąkowa Góra is located in the southern part of Ręczno commune in Łódź province (Central Poland). High geomorphological and geobotanical diversity as well as important cultural values are among the arguments for placing the surroundings of Bąkowa Góra under protection as a natural landscape complex (Fig. 1).

The most significant natural and landscape values of this site include:

- a harmonious cultural landscape dominated by the extensive hill of Bąkowa Góra (282 m a.s.l.), towering over the river valley of Pilica which runs in a naturally meandering bed (Fig. 2);
- old-growth forest with a rich herb layer typical for oak-hornbeam forests, growing on excavated sandstone pits at the top of the hill;
- rich vascular plant flora, numbering over 750 species, including: 47 protected species, 76 species threatened with extinction in Central Poland and 8 species threatened in Poland (Tab. 1.);
- natural phytocoenotic diversity, especially the presence of a community with features of the submontane ash riverside forest *Carici remotae-Fraxinetum*.

The most important cultural heritage objects are concentrated in the villages of Bąkowa Góra and Majkowice.

Bąkowa Góra contains a preserved complex of architectural monuments which includes an ancient feudal castle (14<sup>th</sup> c.), church (15<sup>th</sup> c.), manor house (18<sup>th</sup> c.) and remnants of farm buildings (19<sup>th</sup> c.), forming a valuable illustration of social and cultural changes which have taken place in this area since the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Majkowice has a valuable and conspicuous display of development stages of a noble family seat which includes the relics of three settlement complexes, the best preserved of which are the castle ruins (16<sup>th</sup> c.) at the edge of the marshy valley of Pilica river (Fig. 3).

The presented values are a significant argument for the creation of a natural landscape complex in the southern part of Ręczno commune with an area of ca. 3050 ha, including ca. 1230 ha of forest, and for inclusion of this area in the Sulejów Landscape Park.